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1991/10/23

SECRET

EXCISE

Wed Oct 23, 1991

P 151

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China: STARTING NPT RATIFICATION

The standing committee of the National People's Congress (NPC) will discuss accession to the nuclear non-proliferation treaty (NPT) at a meeting scheduled to begin on October 25, according to *Xinhua*.

BI A5

Comment: Beijing appears to be following up on Premier Li Peng's August announcement that China would accede to the NPT. Though the NPT could be ratified at the standing committee meeting.

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